

Appl. No. 09/782,178
Amdt. dated July 30, 2003
Preliminary Amendment

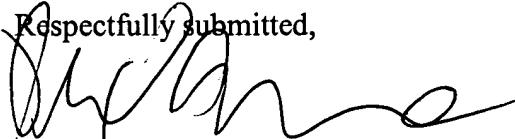
PATENT

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-576-0200.

Dated: 7/31/03

Respectfully submitted,

Philip H. Albert
Reg. No. 35,819

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, 8th Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: 415-576-0200
Fax: 415-576-0300
PHA:jtc
60007175 v1